



# Department of Homeland Security Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 06 July 2007

Current  
Nationwide  
Threat Level is

**ELEVATED**  
SIGNIFICANT RISK OF  
TERRORIST ATTACKS

[For info click here](http://www.dhs.gov/)

<http://www.dhs.gov/>

## Daily Highlights

- KHOU reports someone has stolen a chlorine gas canister from a water treatment facility in Montgomery, Texas; the Joint Terrorism Task force has been notified of the theft. (See item [24](#))
- eWeek reports that as the number of Voice over Internet Protocol, or VoIP, deployments continues to increase, IT professionals and researchers are urging enterprises to be more concerned about security. (See item [37](#))

## DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report *Fast Jump*

**Production Industries:** [Energy](#); [Chemical Industry and Hazardous Materials](#); [Defense Industrial Base](#)

**Service Industries:** [Banking and Finance](#); [Transportation and Border Security](#); [Postal and Shipping](#)

**Sustenance and Health:** [Agriculture](#); [Food](#); [Water](#); [Public Health](#)

**Federal and State:** [Government](#); [Emergency Services](#)

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**Other:** [Commercial Facilities/Real Estate, Monument & Icons](#); [General](#); [DHS Daily Report Contact Information](#)

## Energy Sector

**Current Electricity Sector Threat Alert Levels: Physical: ELEVATED, Cyber: ELEVATED**

Scale: LOW, GUARDED, ELEVATED, HIGH, SEVERE [Source: ISAC for the Electricity Sector (ES-ISAC) – <http://www.esisac.com>]

1. *July 05, Associated Press* — U.S. mine agency admits shortcomings, vows improved safety inspections. Federal inspectors missed obvious problems and failed to follow procedures before three high-profile accidents that killed 19 men at underground coal mines in West Virginia and Kentucky last year, according to the Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA). An internal accountability office will be created along with numerous other steps to make sure such lapses are not repeated, the agency said. The moves follow reviews of MSHA's actions before the Sago Mine explosion that killed 12 men in northern West Virginia on January 2, 2006, a conveyor belt fire at the Aracoma Alma No. 1 Mine in southern West

Virginia 17 days later and an explosion that killed five more miners at the Darby Mine in Kentucky on May 20, 2006. Those accidents prompted sweeping changes to the nation's coal mining laws last year. The agency also has asked the Department of Labor to investigate potential misconduct by MSHA inspectors. The agency reported finding several instances of questionable conduct by inspectors assigned to the Alma mine, which is owned by Massey Energy Co.

Source: <http://www.insurancejournal.com/news/national/2007/07/05/813.63.htm>

2. *July 04, Guardian (UK)* — **Venezuela sells petrol to Iran to reinforce front against U.S.**

Venezuela is to sell petrol to Iran to alleviate its ally's crippling fuel shortage and to bolster their common front against the U.S. President Hugo Chávez made the promise during a visit to Tehran where he pledged an "axis of unity" with President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, according to Venezuela's oil minister, Rafael Ramirez. The announcement came a week after Iran imposed fuel rationing which brought riots in several cities and increased anger at the government's failure to ease economic hardship. Iran is a major oil producer but a shortage of refineries forces it to import more than half of its domestic needs. The announcement signaled an extension of Chávez's use of Venezuela's considerable oil reserves to forge alliances against the U.S. "The two countries will, united, defeat the imperialism of North America," he told reporters. With a smile he added: "When I come to Iran, Washington gets upset." It was not immediately clear how much petrol would be shipped from the Caribbean to the Persian Gulf, nor whether Tehran would receive a discount on the grounds it was a revolutionary "brother" in standing up to the west.

Source: <http://www.guardian.co.uk/venezuela/story/0,,2117844,00.html>

3. *July 04, Guardian (UK)* — **Nuclear expansion is a pipe dream, says report.** A worldwide expansion of nuclear power has little chance of significantly reducing carbon emissions but will add dangerously to the proliferation of nuclear weapons-grade materials and the potential for nuclear terrorism, says a leading research group that has analyzed the possible uptake of civil atomic power over the next 65 years. The Oxford Research Group paper says that the worldwide nuclear "renaissance" planned by the industry to provide cheap, clean power is a myth. Although global electricity demand is expected to rise by 50 percent in the next 25 years, only 25 new nuclear reactors are currently being built, with 76 more planned and a further 162 proposed, many of which are unlikely to be built. This compares with 429 reactors in operation today. For nuclear power to make any significant contribution to a reduction in global carbon emissions in the next two generations, the industry would have to construct nearly 3,000 new reactors. The paper comes as the UK government consults on a new generation of nuclear power stations and at a time of increased terrorist activity.

Too Hot to Handle? The Future of Civil Nuclear Power:

[http://www.oxfordresearchgroup.org.uk/publications/briefing\\_papers/pdf/toohottotohandle.pdf](http://www.oxfordresearchgroup.org.uk/publications/briefing_papers/pdf/toohottotohandle.pdf)

Source: <http://politics.guardian.co.uk/green/story/0,,2117999,00.htm>

4. *July 03, Reuters* — **U.S., Russia launch nuclear energy initiative.** The United States and Russia on Tuesday, July 3, pledged to expand nuclear energy cooperation, make nuclear power available to other states and reduce their own strategic nuclear weapons to the lowest possible levels. The initiatives aimed to capitalize on and shape a growing demand for nuclear energy and to answer complaints that Moscow and Washington, with the world's biggest nuclear weapons arsenals, are intent on maintaining overwhelming dominance. But they immediately

drew fire from some nuclear experts. Companies in both countries could profit immensely from an explosion in reliance on nuclear power generation. U.S. negotiator Robert Joseph said more than a dozen countries are interested in acquiring nuclear reactors and "now is the time to help shape their decisions in a way that advances our common interests." U.S. President George W. Bush and Russian President Vladimir Putin see nuclear energy playing a central role in the future and the new initiative "is about meeting the world's energy requirements ... development (and) assisting nations to enjoy the benefits of nuclear power," he said.

Source: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2007/07/03/AR2007070300979.html>

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## **Chemical Industry and Hazardous Materials Sector**

5. *July 05, Asbury Park Press (NJ)* — **Ruptured gas line forces evacuation.** The Fire Department in Lavallette, NJ, responded to an accidental gas line break on the ocean block of Brown Avenue and used the "Jaws of Life" to crimp the line until service could be turned off to the area Wednesday morning, July 4. Police and fire companies from Lavallette and Ocean Beach responded to a 9:52 a.m. EDT call about an emergency situation at 4 Brown Ave., which led to the evacuation of 40 surrounding homes on three streets. A homeowner who was doing work outside his house hit a gas line with a shovel and caused the evacuation of almost 200 people. The homeowner had only been digging a few inches down in the ground when the shovel severed a plastic-sheathed metal gas line, likely installed three or four decades ago.  
Source: <http://www.app.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20070705/NEWS02/707050397/1070>
6. *July 04, Bakersfield Californian* — **Collision causes pesticide blaze.** A fire in Bakersfield, CA, created when a car collided with a tanker carrying 40,000 pounds of pesticide has some residents concerned for their health. The fire burned until the tanker's cargo was consumed from about 9 p.m. PDT Monday to 6 a.m. PDT Tuesday, July 3 — nearly 10 hours, said Ted Mendoza, division chief with Tulare County Fire. The blaze began when Hector Arambula Jr., a 26-year-old man from Bakersfield, lost control of his car while traveling north on Highway 99 in the fast lane. Arambula, who was arrested on suspicion of drunken driving, crashed his car into the fuel tank of an 18-wheeler that was traveling in the slow lane at 55 mph. The big rig began leaking fuel and both vehicles burst into flames, and this initial fire ignited the tanker's cargo of pesticide. No one was injured in the crash. Traffic in both directions on Highway 99 was closed due to the fire and pesticide cleanup for about 10 hours. The southbound lanes opened at 6 a.m. PDT on Tuesday and the northbound lanes opened at noon on the same day.  
Source: <http://www.bakersfield.com/102/story/181243.html>
7. *July 02, Janesville Gazette (WI)* — **Cause of ammonia leak unknown.** Investigators still are looking into what caused a chemical leak that led to the closing of Highway 59 for more than six hours Friday night and Saturday morning, June 30, in Milton, WI. Milton Fire Chief Loren Lippincott said a tank of anhydrous ammonia appeared to have been sitting undisturbed at a farm at 8201 E. Highway 59 when "it somehow started to leak." Milton fire and rescue units and the sheriff's department were called after someone smelled the gas and called the 911 center, Lippincott said. The highway was closed soon thereafter. Lippincott said Monday

morning he had no new information on the cause of the leak, but investigators still were working on it. Four houses in the immediate area were evacuated as a precautionary measure. Source: <http://www.gazetteextra.com/ammonialeak070207.asp>

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## **Defense Industrial Base Sector**

Nothing to report.

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## **Banking and Finance Sector**

8. *July 03, InformationWeek* — **VA investigator blames IT specialist, lax security for major data loss.** Investigators are saying the IT specialist who lost the external hard drive at the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) failed to follow procedures that would have protected the data, and then he deleted and encrypted files to hide the extent of the data loss. James J. O'Neill, VA assistant inspector general for investigations, wrote in a report that managers did not follow security policies, failed to physically secure the building, gave the IT specialist too much access, and were not even physically present to oversee daily operations. The VA, which has been plagued by lost computers in recent years, had earlier revealed that in late January an employee at the Birmingham, AL, VA Medical Center reported an external hard drive missing. That drive, said the worker, may have contained veterans' personal files, some of which may have been stored on the drive in unencrypted form. The Inspector's report said the IT specialist delayed the investigation and accurate reporting of the extent of the loss. The IT specialist encrypted and deleted multiple files from his computer shortly after he reported the data missing, making it more difficult to determine what was stored on his desktop computer, according to the report.

Source: <http://www.informationweek.com/security/showArticle.jhtml;jsessionid=VPI3NBMCHKDSYQSNL0SKH0CJUNN2JVN?articleID=200900263&articleID=200900263>

9. *July 03, Websense Security Labs* — **Phishing Alert: Banco Nacional de Costa Rica.** Websense Security Labs has received reports of a phishing attack that targets customers of Banco Nacional de Costa Rica. Users receive a spoofed e-mail message, asking them to verify their details due to a number of suspicious attempts to access their account. The e-mail provides a link to a phishing site, which attempts to collect personal and account information. Source: <http://www.websense.com/securitylabs/alerts/alert.php?AlertID=784>

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## **Transportation and Border Security Sector**

10. *July 05, Associated Press* — **Plane's faulty sensor indicates fire.** A Southwest Airlines pilot discharged fire extinguishers in a cargo hold Thursday, July 5, after getting a false fire warning as the plane approached Seattle-Tacoma International Airport. Brandy King, a Southwest

spokesperson, said the problem was traced to a fire sensor failure in the forward cargo area of Flight 2981 carrying 126 passengers from Salt Lake City. She compared it to a false engine warning light in a car dashboard. The light in the cockpit went out after the fire extinguishers were discharged, the plane landed normally, passengers disembarked as usual and an inspection showed no sign of smoke or a fire, King said. Firefighters met the plane as a precaution, she added.

Source: <http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/19617607/>

11. *July 05, Associated Press* — **Continental in deal with Kingfisher Airlines.** Continental Airlines Inc. said Thursday, July 5, it has agreed with India's Kingfisher Airlines to sell seats on each other's flights and offer reciprocal frequent-flyer privileges. Continental said customers of each airline will be able to earn and redeem miles on all flights operated by the other carrier beginning October 1. By the end of the year, the airlines plan to begin code sharing, under which Continental will sell seats on Kingfisher flights that connect to Continental flights. The arrangement allows for a single check-in for multiple flights. Kingfisher has operated for two years and offers 187 daily flights to 29 destinations in India.

Source: [http://biz.yahoo.com/ap/070705/continental\\_kingfisher.html?.v=1](http://biz.yahoo.com/ap/070705/continental_kingfisher.html?.v=1)

12. *July 05, Associated Press* — **Rome's Ciampino airport reopens after man found on runway.** The discovery of a man carrying two bags and walking on the runway at Rome's Ciampino airport led to an extended overnight shutdown and flight cancellations and delays Tuesday morning, July 3. The 31-year-old Eritrean was spotted on the runway Monday evening by the pilot of a cargo plane that was preparing for takeoff, police at the airport said. Police detained the man and blew up his bags with a controlled explosion, but nothing suspicious was found in them. Officials said it was not yet clear how and why the man entered the fenced airport, a hub for low-cost airlines. The airport also has a military wing used by the air force as well as Italian and foreign dignitaries on state visits. The man was released after being reported to prosecutors for violating security measures, police said.

Source: [http://www.usatoday.com/travel/flights/2007-07-05-rome-closure\\_N.htm](http://www.usatoday.com/travel/flights/2007-07-05-rome-closure_N.htm)

13. *July 05, Associated Press* — **US Airways trims capacity for second half.** Tempe, AZ-based US Airways Group Inc. has cut its capacity by two percent for the year's second half, the carrier said in a regulatory filing Thursday. More U.S. airlines have been moving to cut domestic capacity recently, as they battle weakening results. By holding supply of airplane seats in check, the industry allows itself greater pricing power. US Airways cited "industry conditions" for its decision to trim capacity. The airline also said its second-quarter unit costs, excluding fuel, were higher than previously forecast due to maintenance costs related to returning eight aircraft and the timing of engine overhaul expenses.

Source: [http://biz.yahoo.com/ap/070705/us\\_airways\\_outlook.html?.v=1](http://biz.yahoo.com/ap/070705/us_airways_outlook.html?.v=1)

14. *July 04, Associated Press* — **Michigan airport evacuated after threats.** An airport and two airplanes on the ground were evacuated for several hours after nine bomb threats were phoned in, authorities said. The evacuation at Bishop International Airport in Flint, MI, about 60 miles northwest of Detroit, began shortly after the threats were called in to the airport's rescue department around 5 p.m. CDT Wednesday, July 4, said Tad Hutcheson, vice president of marketing for AirTran Airways, the airport's biggest carrier. Norm Brewer, a Transportation Security Administration spokesperson said shortly before 9 p.m. that operations at the airport



had returned to normal. Brewer said he did not know if any bombs were found or whether there were any suspects or arrests.

Source: <http://www.iht.com/articles/ap/2007/07/05/america/NA-GEN-US-Airport-Evacuated.php>

- 15. July 03, *Platts Energy Bulletin* — Western railroads begin track repairs, but coal delays continue.** Railroads have begun repairing track damaged as a result of flooding in Kansas and neighboring states, officials said Tuesday, July 3, but some main line track is still under water and trains are taking detours to keep coal flowing for utilities. BNSF Railway restored service on a single-track line between Francis, OK, and Spaulding, Oklahoma, at 6 pm CDT on July 2, said spokesperson Joe Faust. He said the line shut following a June 29 derailment due to track washout, adding that shipments moving through the area may be delayed by some 24 to 36 hours over the next several days. Union Pacific said some repairs to damaged track are under way in Kansas, Oklahoma, and Texas. The railroad has seen the most damage on its mainline connecting Kansas City, Fort Worth, and North Little Rock. The impact from the floods has also affected service on other major railroads. Kansas City Southern spokesperson Doniele Kane said the railroad has faced some disruptions as a result of the flooding, which has limited its ability to move coal to customers.

Source: <http://www.platts.com/Electric%20Power/News/6398047.xml?sub=Electric%20Power&p=Electric%20Power/News>

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## **Postal and Shipping Sector**

- 16. July 04, *Bellingham Herald (WA)* — ‘Bomb’ discovered at Point Roberts, Washington.** A suspicious device found in a mailbox at a private postal services company Tuesday, July 3, was initially believed to be a bomb, but may have been a sophisticated movie prop, Whatcom County Sheriff Bill Elfo said. Point-to-Point Parcel was evacuated Tuesday morning after the discovery of the device. Elfo said a cylindrical object with an electronic device attached was found in a private mailbox. It wasn’t clear how the device was delivered to the mailbox. Bomb experts safely blew the device apart Tuesday evening, Elfo said, and upon further evaluation, were not certain it had been a bomb. Examination of the device was delayed when a bomb squad from the federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives was not allowed to take its equipment directly across the Canadian border. It had to be loaded onto a U.S. Coast Guard vessel for transport to Point Roberts, Elfo said. A geopolitical oddity, Point Roberts is a small unincorporated community in Whatcom County, Washington state. An exclave of the United States, it sits on the southernmost tip of the Tsawwassen Peninsula, south of Delta, British Columbia, Canada. Point Roberts can only be reached from the rest of the U.S. by traveling through Canada or crossing Boundary Bay.

Source: <http://www.bellinghamherald.com/102/story/121434.html>

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## **Agriculture Sector**

**17. *July 03, Agricultural Research Service* — New USDA animal research facility dedicated.**

Secretary of Agriculture Mike Johanns and members of Iowa's Congressional delegation helped dedicate a new U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) high-containment large animal facility in Ames, IA, Tuesday, July 2. The "high-containment" designation means the building is designed for optimal safety and security because the scientists will work with a variety of endemic, zoonotic and foreign animal diseases in what is called Biological Safety Level 3 (BSL3) space. The new building contains more than 155,000 square feet and will house cattle, bison, elk, deer, reindeer, sheep and hogs. It includes designated areas for research by scientists with USDA's Agricultural Research Service (ARS) as well as for diagnostics-testing training and biologic product evaluation by employees of USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS). The center consolidates three units within the two USDA agencies: ARS' National Animal Disease Center, which conducts research concerning animal health and diseases with an agricultural impact; APHIS' National Veterinary Services Laboratories, which serves as a national and international reference laboratory and provides diagnostic services, reagents and training; and APHIS' Center for Veterinary Biologics, which regulates vaccines, bacterins, antisera, diagnostic kits and other biological products for the diagnosis, prevention and treatment of animal diseases.

Source: <http://www.ars.usda.gov/is/pr/2007/070703.htm>

**18. *July 02, Bozeman Daily Chronical (MT)* — Possible brucellosis buffer zone around**

**Yellowstone National Park.** Creating a brucellosis buffer zone around Yellowstone National Park is a feasible idea, a federal disease control official said Monday, July 2. Theresa Howes, spokesperson for the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, said she and the federal agency's top veterinarian, Tom Clifford, met in June with Montana Governor Brian Schweitzer to discuss the possibility. Schweitzer has for more than two years pushed the idea of a buffer or "hot zone" in the southern reaches of Park, Gallatin and Madison counties. All cattle entering or leaving the zone would be tested for brucellosis, a disease found in May in a Bridger herd, the first Montana outbreak since 1985. Schweitzer said the disease appears to have been transmitted from elk. He also said it is likely that more cases will be found, sooner or later. If another case arises, the entire state — with 2.5 million cattle — loses its brucellosis-free status. That means expensive testing and possibly a loss of marketing opportunities, Schweitzer said. That's why Schweitzer wants a separate administrative zone around Yellowstone National Park, which is the largest remaining reservoir of the disease in the nation.

Source: [http://www.bozemandailychronicle.com/articles/2007/07/02/new\\_s/20brucellosis.txt](http://www.bozemandailychronicle.com/articles/2007/07/02/new_s/20brucellosis.txt)

**19. *July 02, Associated Press* — Organism identified that may be killing sheep.** An organism that may have played a part in killing thousands of bighorn sheep in the West over the last five decades has been isolated in a lab and found in struggling bighorn herds in the wild. Biologists say that could be the initial organism that attacks the sheep and works by inhibiting the ability of hairlike structures in airways to eliminate bacteria that lead to deadly pneumonia. "This is the first problem I've worked on where there is quite a bit of evidence piling up where the agent is a mycoplasma," said Tom Besser, a professor of veterinary microbiology and pathology. He works at the Washington Animal Disease Diagnostic Laboratory at Washington State University (WSU). Among adult bighorns that hadn't previously been exposed to mycoplasma, 25 percent to 75 percent die, he said, noting the variation could be due to how many were initially exposed or to how virulent a strain of the disease is at work. Sweeping epidemics of a mystery illness have wiped out thousands of Rocky Mountain bighorns, California bighorns,

Sierra Nevada bighorns, and desert bighorns since reintroductions began.

Source: <http://www.onelocalnews.com/pioneertimesjournal/stories/index.php?action=fullnews&id=129428>

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## **Food Sector**

20. *July 05, Kyodo News (Japan)* — **Japan lifts ban on U.S. meatpacker.** Japan on Wednesday, July 4, removed its import ban on Jobbers Meat Packing Co. of the U.S. after the U.S. government confirmed that the Los Angeles, CA, based company has taken the steps needed to ensure product safety, the farm and health ministries said. The ban was imposed in March after sausages shipped by Jobbers Meat were found to contain processed U.S. beef, which is a violation of Japanese regulations for preventing mad cow disease.  
Source: <http://search.japantimes.co.jp/cgi-bin/nb20070705a3.html>
21. *July 04, Reuters* — **China inspectors find one-fifth of goods substandard.** Nearly a fifth of goods Chinese quality inspectors checked in the first half of this year were below standard, the government revealed on Wednesday, July 4. The General Administration of Quality Supervision, Inspection and Quarantine stressed that 80.9 percent of 7,200 products inspected passed scrutiny — leaving 19.1 percent of the tested goods laced with toxins or too many additives, without safety protections or lacking required label information. The report did not cover exports. Problem goods included jelly snacks, drinks, canned fruit, water dispensers and dried fish, with many foods containing high levels of bacteria or additives. One fifth of fruit drinks failed inspection. Fertilizers, pesticides and other farming products also had an overall failure rate of 19.5 percent.  
Source: <http://uk.reuters.com/article/healthNews/idUKPEK173820070704>
22. *July 02, World Health Organization* — **UN food standards commission meets.** New measures to ensure safer powdered infant formulae and hygienic egg production will be discussed by the Codex Alimentarius Commission (CAC), which opened a six-day meeting Monday, July 2. The commission, in its annual session, is considering the adoption of several food safety and quality standards that countries depend on to safeguard the health of consumers, improve food quality and ensure fair practices in food trade. The commission is a body jointly set up by the United Nations (UN) Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and the World Health Organization. Codex will reconsider the 1981 standard on infant formula, which was based on scientific knowledge from the 1970s. The revised standard for infant formula and those for special medical purposes is based on the latest scientific understanding of the composition of breast milk. The commission will also be looking at a revised code of hygienic practice for eggs and egg products. Another draft code up for adoption would prevent or reduce Ochratoxin A contamination in wine. Ochratoxin A is a mycotoxin known to be toxic to the kidneys. The 30th session of the Codex Alimentarius Commission runs from July 2 to July 7.  
Source: <http://www.who.int/mediacentre/news/releases/2007/pr34/en/index.html>

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## Water Sector

23. *July 04, Associated Press* — **Oklahoma residents urged to boil water.** The state Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) issued a precautionary boil order on Wednesday, July 4, for some northern Oklahoma residents whose water supply might be affected by a massive oil spill from a Kansas refinery. Officials decided to go with the boil order because the town of Coffeyville, KS, lost water pressure on Tuesday, July 3, said Skylar McElhaney, a DEQ spokesperson. The order affects residents in the Nowata County Rural Water District No. 7, running from Oklahoma's border with Kansas south to Lenapah and from two miles into Craig County west to about three miles east of Wann, McElhaney said.  
Source: [http://www.tulsaworld.com/news/article.aspx?articleID=070704\\_1\\_TheDe42372&breadcrumb=Breaking%20News](http://www.tulsaworld.com/news/article.aspx?articleID=070704_1_TheDe42372&breadcrumb=Breaking%20News)
24. *July 04, KHOU (TX)* — **Chemical stolen from water plant.** Someone has stolen a chlorine gas canister from a water treatment facility in Montgomery, TX. That has authorities worried. Authorities said the Joint Terrorism Task force has been notified of the theft. A chlorine cylinder is a 150-pound stainless steel canister with a red steel cap and is clearly marked in black letters with chlorine gas.  
Source: [http://www.khou.com/news/local/crime/stories/khou070703\\_tj\\_chlorine.3f45c5e2.html](http://www.khou.com/news/local/crime/stories/khou070703_tj_chlorine.3f45c5e2.html)
25. *July 03, Charlotte Observer (NC)* — **Drought now in all of North Carolina.** All 100 North Carolina counties are in some stage of drought for the first time this year, Governor Mike Easley said Monday, July 2. Moderate drought, which covers the Charlotte region, now extends eastward to include the Greensboro and Raleigh areas, according to the U.S. Drought Monitor. The western tip of North Carolina is in extreme drought, while other mountain counties and the northwestern tip of South Carolina are in severe drought. Twenty-three water systems have asked for voluntary conservation. Nine more have begun mandatory water-conservation measures.  
Source: <http://www.charlotte.com/local/story/182946.html>
26. *July 02, China Daily* — **Water supply resumes in China city.** Water supply has returned to normal in the urban areas in Shuyang County, east China's Jiangsu Province Wednesday, July 4, after a 40-hour suspension caused by pollution that reportedly affected more than 200,000 local people. Harmful substances were detected in the water on Monday, July 2. The level of 28 mg ammonia and azote per cubic meter found was about 34 times the upper limit for drinkable water. An initial investigation indicated water pollutants from upper reaches of the Xinyi River, which originated in Shandong Province, entered the Shuyang Section at a speed of 350 cubic meters per second. Jiangsu suffered another water crisis at the end of May, when a severe blue-green algae outbreak left tap water undrinkable for a week for half of the 2.3 million residents in Wuxi city.  
Source: [http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/china/2007-07/04/content\\_909991.htm](http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/china/2007-07/04/content_909991.htm)

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## Public Health Sector

27. *July 05, Associated Press* — **French swans test positive for bird flu.** Three swans found dead in a pond in eastern France have tested positive for the H5N1 strain of bird flu, the Agriculture Ministry said Thursday, July 5. Officials have set up a control zone of about half a mile around the pond in Assenoncourt in the Moselle region to watch for more possible deaths of wild birds, the ministry said. The ministry ordered domestic fowl protected from wild birds and banned pigeon racing competitions and some other activities involving birds.  
Source: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2007/07/05/AR2007070500231.html>
28. *July 04, Reuters* — **Germany finds bird flu cases in wild birds.** More wild birds have tested positive in Germany for the H5N1 strain of bird flu, German authorities said on Wednesday, July 4. Two wild birds tested positive for H5N1 in the eastern state of Thuringen. About 100 birds of various types were found dead in the state and about 40 were being tested for bird flu, Germany's Friedrich-Loeffler national animal diseases institute said. Last week, Germany discovered H5N1 in Leipzig in the eastern state of Saxony and in the southern city of Nuremberg in cases involving a total of nine wild birds.  
Source: <http://www.alertnet.org/thenews/newsdesk/L04829148.htm>
29. *July 03, World Health Organization* — **New global effort to eliminate Chagas disease.** A new effort to eliminate Chagas disease by 2010 is set to launch Wednesday, July 4, at a World Health Organization (WHO) meeting of disease experts and partners. The strategy is designed to answer key questions about the treatment and control of Chagas disease, and to coordinate global efforts towards the prevention of transmission through a new Global Network for Chagas Elimination. Chagas disease is a serious, potentially life-threatening illness caused by a protozoan parasite called *T. cruzi*. Early symptoms include fever, fatigue, swollen glands and heart pain, but in later years the infection can lead to chronic debilitation caused by progressive destruction of the heart muscle. It occurs mainly in Latin America where, during the 1980s, over 20 million people were thought to be infected. Since then, Latin American countries have made enormous efforts to control the infection, such that current estimates suggest that less than eight million people remain infected. However, the infection is no longer confined to Latin America because of blood transmission and organ transplantation. Cases have been identified in non-endemic countries in Europe, and in Canada and the U.S. The network will develop a five-pillar strategy before the end of this year.  
Source: <http://www.who.int/mediacentre/news/releases/2007/pr36/en/index.html>
30. *July 03, Agence France-Presse* — **Structure of TB enzyme points the way to new drugs.** Swiss scientists said Monday, July 2, that they have further evidence to suggest that an enzyme secreted by the microbe that causes tuberculosis (TB) would make a promising target for new drugs to combat the disease. The Swiss team first identified the enzyme, protein kinase G (PknG), as a drug target in 2004. At the time, they said that the protein is the secret weapon that enables the TB bug, *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*, to avoid being hunted down and destroyed by the body's immune system sentinels as most other pathogens are. The protein apparently interferes with the functioning of the cells called macrophages that typically engulf and digest pathogens. Instead of absorbing and destroying the TB bacteria, the macrophages become host cells where the germ hides out. The investigators said they had also identified a compound that could block the suspect protein, but they were concerned that by inhibiting this one protein,

they would interfere with the action of other similar proteins secreted by the host cell. Jean Pieters, a professor of biochemistry at the University of Basle in Switzerland, and colleagues have since found that the compound acted on a segment of the protein that is unique to PknG. Source: [http://news.yahoo.com/s/afp/20070703/ts\\_alt\\_afp/ussciencehealth\\_070702211557;\\_ylt=Auiw2wXFERM0ocRMuxHglU6JOrgF](http://news.yahoo.com/s/afp/20070703/ts_alt_afp/ussciencehealth_070702211557;_ylt=Auiw2wXFERM0ocRMuxHglU6JOrgF)

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## **Government Sector**

**31. July 03, *Chicago Tribune* — Surveillance cameras installed near schools.** Cicero, IL, police are installing a dozen video surveillance cameras around neighborhood schools after getting a \$500,000 federal grant. The first camera was installed near 54th Street and Cermak Road near Columbus East School, officials said Monday, July 3. The town received the grant from the School Safe Passage program with help from Cook County Commissioner Mario Moreno and the county's Project Shield team. Chicago and several other municipalities have installed video cameras recently to deter and record criminals. Some Cicero patrol cars will be equipped with mobile monitors. Officials said the cameras will have "smart" features such as being able to track the source of a gunshot.

Source: [http://www.chicagotribune.com/news/local/nearwest/chi-cicero\\_03jul03.1.132529.story?coll=chi-newslocalnearwest-hed](http://www.chicagotribune.com/news/local/nearwest/chi-cicero_03jul03.1.132529.story?coll=chi-newslocalnearwest-hed)

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## **Emergency Services Sector**

**32. July 05, *Chicago Daily Herald* — Illinois county 911 task force wants unified emergency system.** Because they each use different equipment and operating platforms, it isn't easy for Kane County, IL's, seven emergency dispatch centers to communicate among themselves. A new task force composed of county and municipal officials hopes to change that. "As it stands, some of our emergency systems cannot communicate with each other, increasing the vulnerability of our residents and first responders," Kane County Board Chairman Karen McConnaughay said in announcing the task force's formation Tuesday, July 3. "We need to work at establishing common lines of communication." Each of the county's seven 911 dispatch operates independently, overseeing specific geographic areas of the county. The task force will examine whether the dispatch centers should coordinate equipment purchases, among other issues, McConnaughay said.

Source: <http://www.dailyherald.com/news/mchenrystory.asp?id=328984&c=c&k=&tc=&t=>

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## **Information Technology and Telecommunications Sector**

**33. July 05, *IDG News Service* — Court holds Belgian ISP responsible for file sharing.** A court has ruled that the Belgian ISP Scarlet Extended is responsible for blocking illegal file sharing on its network, setting a precedent that could affect other ISPs in Europe, according to a

recording industry group. Belgium's Court of First Instance has given the Internet service provider six months to install technology to prevent its customers from sharing pirated music and video files, the International Federation of the Phonographic Industry (IFPI) said. If it fails to do so it will be fined \$3,400 per day, according to the ruling, published June 29. The Brussels ruling is based on Belgium's interpretation of the European Union's Information Society Directive, often called the EU copyright directive, and as such could set a precedent for other cases in Europe, the IFPI said.

Source: [http://www.infoworld.com/article/07/07/05/ISP-responsible-for-file-sharing\\_1.html](http://www.infoworld.com/article/07/07/05/ISP-responsible-for-file-sharing_1.html)

34. *July 05, VNUNet* — **Security exchange trades zero-day flaws.** A vendor-independent Swiss laboratory is aiming to allow hackers and security specialists to sell vulnerability data to security vendors and software companies. WSLabi claims that its offering is the first zero-day vulnerability security research exchange. Herman Zampariolo, chief executive at WSLabi, said: "We set up this portal for selling security research because, although there are many researchers out there who discover vulnerabilities, very few are able or willing to report it to the 'right' people due to the fear of it being exploited." Zampariolo added that, although researchers had analyzed around 7,000 publicly disclosed vulnerabilities last year, the number of new vulnerabilities found in code could be as high as 139,362 a year. "Our intention is that the marketplace facility on WSLabi will enable security researchers to get a fair price for their findings and ensure that they will no longer be forced to give them away for free or sell them to cyber-criminals," he said.

Source: <http://www.vnunet.com/vnunet/news/2193550/security-exchange-trades-zero>

35. *July 05, VNUNet* — **Welder killed by mobile phone explosion.** A Chinese welder has died after the mobile phone in his chest pocket exploded. Chinese state media reported that Xiao Jinpeng was killed in June while working at the Yingpan Iron Ore Dressing Plant. His Motorola phone apparently exploded, driving splinters of his ribs through his heart. The man died in hospital after emergency surgery. "Up to now, preliminary evidence suggests that it is highly unlikely that a cell phone caused this accident. We are working with the Chinese authorities to determine and investigate the root cause," said Yang Boning, a press officer for Motorola in Beijing. One possibility is that the high temperatures generated by welding caused the explosion. Phones using batteries from third-party suppliers have also caused severe overheating in the past owing to poor power management controls.

Source: <http://www.vnunet.com/vnunet/news/2193549/chinese-welder-killed-mobile>

36. *July 04, Sophos* — **Independence Day malware attack strikes via e-mail greetings.** Experts at Sophos have warned of a widespread e-mail spam campaign that poses as a 4th July greeting card, but is really an attempt to lure innocent computer users into being infected by a Trojan horse and attacked by hackers. The e-mails, which are being seen in inboxes worldwide, claim that the recipient has been sent an ecard greeting by a friend and tells the user to click on a link to view the card. Clicking on the link contained inside the e-mail, which is in the form of a numeric IP address, takes surfers to a compromised zombie computer hosting the Troj/JSEcard-A Trojan horse. The Trojan horse then tries to download additional code from the Internet which Sophos intercepts as Mal/Dorf-C.

Source: [http://www.sophos.com/pressoffice/news/articles/2007/07/july\\_4.html](http://www.sophos.com/pressoffice/news/articles/2007/07/july_4.html)

37.

*July 03, eWeek* — **Enterprises must focus on VoIP security.** As the number of Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP) deployments is expected to continue to increase, IT professionals and researchers are urging enterprises not to forget about security. VoIP security threats are viewed as more theoretical than actual. But the few cases that have come to light have been brazen and costly. For example, investigators arrested two people in 2006 for a scam in which they were accused of hacking into the networks of several unnamed companies and hijacking their VoIP bandwidth for resale. With IP phone use growing, some security specialists are saying it is a mistake to downplay the danger and it's time to learn what the threats are as well as how to counter them. In a report, analysts from In-Stat predicted that the number of business IP phones sold would grow from 9.9 million in 2006 to 45.8 million in 2010. Yet more than 40 percent of the enterprises it surveyed don't have any specific security plans for their VoIP deployments.

Source: <http://www.eweek.com/article2/0.1895.2154629.00.asp>

38. *July 03, IDG News Service* — **After attacks, U.S. government sending team to Estonia.** Two months after much of Estonia's online infrastructure was targeted by an online attack, the U.S. government is sending cyber-investigators to help the Baltic state better understand what happened. A representative from the Department of Homeland Security's U.S. Computer Emergency Readiness Team division is heading to Estonia this week to help analyze the large volume of data that was generated by the attacks, said Gregory Garcia, assistant secretary for cyber security and telecommunications with the DHS. "We are sending someone from our organization...to help them with forensic analysis and to do some additional training on how to secure their infrastructure," he said. In April, a widespread DDOS attack struck Estonia and affected government and banking Websites. Early press reports linked the attacks to Russia, but investigators now say that it is unclear who exactly was behind the incident.

Source: [http://www.infoworld.com/article/07/07/03/US-government-sending-team-to-Estonia\\_1.html](http://www.infoworld.com/article/07/07/03/US-government-sending-team-to-Estonia_1.html)

### Internet Alert Dashboard

To report cyber infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact US-CERT at [soc@us-cert.gov](mailto:soc@us-cert.gov) or visit their Website: [www.us-cert.gov](http://www.us-cert.gov).

Information on IT information sharing and analysis can be found at the IT ISAC (Information Sharing and Analysis Center) Website: <https://www.it-isac.org/>.

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## Commercial Facilities/Real Estate, Monument & Icons Sector

Nothing to report.

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## General Sector

Nothing to report.

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To report cyber infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact US–CERT at [soc@us-cert.gov](mailto:soc@us-cert.gov) or visit their Web page at [www.us-cert.gov](http://www.us-cert.gov).

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